Amendments to the Claims:

Upon entry of this Amendment, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A computing machine having a computing architecture, comprising:

a base operating system (OS) installed to the computing machine, the base OS having a base OS file system and a base OS registry; ~~and~~

at least one virtual OS environment within the base OS, the virtual OS environment having a virtual OS file system and a virtual OS registry which are ~~is~~ independent of the base OS file system and the base OS registry;

wherein the computing machine is configured such that attempts to access the base OS file system and the base OS registry by an application running under the virtual OS environment are redirected to the virtual OS file system and the virtual OS registry.

2. (Previously canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The computing machine of claim 1, ~~further including at least one application running under the virtual OS environment, and~~ wherein the application running under the virtual OS environment shares one or more of the following with the base OS:

networking information,

user login rights,

services,

hardware information, and

clipboard information.

4. (Currently amended) The computing machine of claim 1, further including multiple virtual OS environments within the base OS ~~a single operating system (OS)~~, and wherein a change made in one of the virtual OS environments does not affect the base ~~main~~ OS or any of the other virtual OS environments ~~environment~~.

5. (Previously presented) The computing machine of claim 1, wherein each virtual OS environment contains a group of installed applications that run independently of one another.

6. (Previously presented) The computing machine of claim 1, further including one or more applications running under the base OS and each virtual OS environment, and wherein all of the applications run on a single OS desktop.

7. (Currently amended) The computing machine of claim 1, wherein a change made to configuration information with respect to the ~~a~~ virtual OS environment does not change configuration information associated with the base OS.

8. (Currently amended) A method of configuring a computer with a base operating system (OS) having a base OS file system and registry, the method comprising the steps of:

creating at least one virtual OS environment under the base OS, each virtual OS environment having a virtual file system and registry ~~locations~~ which are independent of the base OS file system and registry ~~locations~~;

configuring the computer such that attempts to access the base OS file system and registry by at least one application running under the virtual OS environment are redirected to the virtual OS environment file system and registry.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~8~~9, further including the step of altering one or more application programming interfaces (APIs) that access the base OS file system and registry directly and indirectly so as to redirect these accesses into the appropriate virtual ~~OS environment~~ file system and registry.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further including the step of injecting a DLL into every application that is executed.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, further including the step of creating a copy of the base OS file system and registry in the virtual OS environment file system and registry ~~locations~~.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the ~~an~~ application running under the virtual OS environment is executed using the copy in the virtual OS environment file system and registry ~~locations~~.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, further including setting a predetermined directory such that an application running under the predetermined directory will be redirected to the virtual OS environment based on the location of the application being under the predetermined directory.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the predetermined directory is a CD/DVD drive in the base OS file system.